

Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1 1 (Previously Presented). A permanently fireproof flame guard having a flow
2 cross section that terminates a conduit, in which there is a flame guard insert
3 having a large number of passage gaps ensuring that it is permanently
4 fireproof, characterized in that, within the flow cross section, at least one
5 concentric solid annular section is formed so as to be solid without the passage
6 gaps, and that on both sides of said at least one solid annular section there are
7 annular sections having the passage gaps, wherein said at least one solid
8 annular section is sufficiently sized to dissipate heat in the concentric region
9 within the flow cross section.

1 2 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in
2 claim 1, characterized in that the cross-sectional area of the flame guard insert
3 with the passage gaps is greater than the cross-sectional area without passage
4 gaps.

1 3 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in
2 claim 1, characterized in that a centrally arranged core is provided as a
3 concentric section.

1 4 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in
2 claim 1, characterized in that at least one of the concentric section and the at
3 least one solid annular section is formed of a highly thermally conductive
4 material.

1 5 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in

2 claim 1, characterized in that, within the flow cross section, a plurality of solid
3 annular sections are provided as concentric sections, which are in each case
4 followed in the radial direction by annular sections with passage gaps.

1 6 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in
2 claim 1, characterized in that at least one of the concentric section and the at
3 least one solid annular section is formed from a smooth metal strip wound
4 spirally closely on itself.

1 7 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in
2 claim 6, characterized in that the passage gaps of the flow cross section are
3 formed by a corrugated metal strip wound together spirally with a smooth
4 metal strip.

1 8 (Previously Presented). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in
2 claim 1, characterized in that the flow cross section has an annular form.

1 9 (New). A permanently fireproof flame guard having a flow cross section that
2 terminates a conduit, in which there is a flame guard insert having a plurality
3 of flame guard sections arranged concentrically in relation to one another and
4 divided radially from one another by concentric solid annular sections, each of
5 the plurality of flame guard sections having a large number of passage gaps
6 ensuring that it is permanently fireproof, and within the flow cross section, the
7 solid annular sections are formed so as to be solid without the passage gaps,
8 and that on both sides of each said solid annular section there are annular
9 sections having the passage gaps, wherein said solid annular sections are metal
10 and sufficiently sized to dissipate heat in the concentric region within the flow
11 cross section.

1 10 (New). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in claim 9,
2 wherein the flame guard sections comprise a spiral winding of a flame guard
3 which is formed from a common winding of a corrugated metal strip with a
4 smooth metal strip and solid annular sections are formed inside the circular
5 area of the flow cross section by a plurality of annular concentric sections
6 which are produced by the smooth metal strip being wound without the
7 corrugated metal strip.

1 11 (New). The permanently fireproof flame guard as claimed in claim 10,
2 further comprising in the middle of the flow cross section a concentric section
3 in the form of a central core, which is a solid insert of a highly thermally
4 conductive metal, whereby in the flow cross section, adjacent to the concentric
5 solid annular sections, in each case flame guard sections are formed which
6 have flow gaps whose areas are limited, so that excessive heating of the flame
7 guard sections can be avoided reliably.